



# Branch 146

Contra Costa County CA

August 2022

# Call



## Big Sir's Corner

Richard Lyon

July's Luncheon hosted several guests and introduced two new members! Tables were set for eight diners and were well spaced. It was very comfortable, and everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Just before the 11:30 AM Pledge of

Allegiance a couple of people were looking for seats and it was nice to see one table or another checking the space at their own table and making self-introductions. We often join SIR to make friends and re-establish our network. The Luncheons are the activity where the largest number of us get together in person. It's great to see SIR members extending themselves and making new friends! The Boundary Oak banquet hall can seat close to 300 and even half-full there are a lot of simultaneous conversations.

**Ben Gleason** and **Steve Oki**, Luncheon Managers, reserve seating and make name cards for the head table, guests, new members, sponsors, and volunteers. **George Mon**, Membership, and **Bob Ford**, Recruiting, distribute SIR brochures, and member information packets made up for each new member or guest. Other organizers include **John Alexander**, Treasurer and Check-in, **Dave Kingsbury**, Greeters, **Tony Greco**, Badges, **Pete Plante**, Books, **Bob Lucido** Activity Chairman and flyers and SIR Branch signage, the speaker, and speaker parking. At the July Luncheon all of these valuable SIR members were recognized for their individual contributions that make our luncheons so very well organized. Helping out is also a great way to make new friends.

In June the BEC voted to re-establish the By-Laws starting in January 2023, which were in effect pre-COVID (March 2020). Starting in January 2023, attendance will be required for five out of the 10 monthly luncheons and not missing more than three consecutive luncheons. You will also be able to save the cost of a "to-be-determined" number of luncheons when the popular Annual Payer program is restarted. In the past, Annual Payers saved the cost of two luncheons! Details will be announced in the Annual Dues letter. Im-

portantly, starting in January 2023, each month the Luncheon Manager will by default reserve a meal in your name unless you explicitly telephone or email to cancel your reservation. In the past, some SIR members were exempted from the monthly Opt-out requirement. If you were exempt, we will try to roll that status forward. If you need Exempt Status please let me know before the November BEC meeting ([7424lyon@gmail.com](mailto:7424lyon@gmail.com) 510.913.2288) so that the BEC can confirm your request.

Publicizing our activities and luncheons should increase the number of guests each month. If you can use email attachments and subscribe to Nextdoor or Patch and have just a few minutes a month on your own time to post information about our activities and luncheons, please contact **Larry Kaye** ([larrykaye2@comcast.net](mailto:larrykaye2@comcast.net), 925.698.4030) or me. If your computer is already started, it only takes but a minute or two to copy and paste your post. By doing so, you are letting Nextdoor and Patch subscribers in your neighborhood know about our Branch's luncheons and other activities. It is "free" publicity. That is all there is to it! If we can get ten of us from different cities or areas all posting to Nextdoor and Patch, it will make a huge difference and give the Branch a BIG boost!

The Branch is also looking for a few good guys to support the Branch in various luncheon roles or as a Branch Executive Committee (BEC) Director for a two year hitch. If you are approached, think about the great people that make our Branch attractive to so many like-minded SIR "potentials". Helping the Branch here and there can be a fulfilling experience that adds depth to your existing and new SIR friendships. Give it a shot.

**Rich Lyon**  
Big Sir Branch 146

**SIR Luncheon**  
**Thursday, August 11th, 2022**  
**Boundary Oak**  
**12:00 Noon**  
Jon Haveman, Executive Director of the National  
Economic Education Delegation  
RSVP by August 4th to attend!



### Little Sir's Corner Bob Wilkenfeld

It was early July, and the day before leaving for a two-week vacation in Hawaii I learned that our speaker for August had to cancel. Time to panic! – Not!! Thanks to our Big Sir (**Rich Lyon**) and

our Branch Secretary (**John Kluesener**), I had nothing to worry about. **Rich** quickly found a replacement speaker – see below – and **John** handled the final arrangements for our July speaker. Many thanks to both gents for their assistance!!



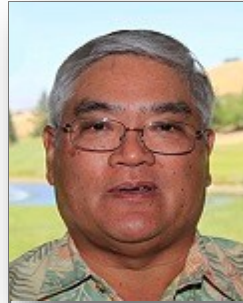
Victoria Briskin, from Early Alert Canine, was our July luncheon speaker. Joining her was a beautiful, black Labrador Retriever, who is a trained Medical Alert service dog. Ms.

Briskin explained how dogs are trained to assist Type 1 diabetics and to detect COVID-19. The EAC-trained dogs are helping many diabetics maintain a healthy, active lifestyle.

For our August luncheon, Jon Haverman, the Executive Director of the National Economic Education Delegation, will join us again. Perhaps he will clarify if we are heading into an economic recession, or already in one!

Looking ahead to September, our luncheon speaker will be Anna Wendort from the Master Gardeners of Contra Costa. Anna will be discussing gardening with native plants. Given our extended drought, this subject is very timely and likely to be of great interest. Please note that our BEC has approved attendance by spouse and partners at the September luncheon.

**Bob Wilkenfeld**  
Little Sir Branch 146



### Membership George Mon

One new member was approved at the July BEC Meeting. Sir **Severo Tony Pasol** lives in Walnut Creek and was a Transportation Supervisor for BART. He is sponsored by **Clint Collier**. SIR **Sam Veneziano** resigned our branch because he is moving to the east coast. SIR **Jim Saavedra** passed away on 6/22/22 after a long illness. The 2022 membership count remains at 275. We ended 2021 with 280 members. Heads up: 2023 Dues letter will be sent out during the month of October. The BEC is currently discussing dues amount and luncheon amount and annual luncheon payer amount for next year. The Membership Directory is located on our website and is updated monthly. It is important that any changes to your contact information, especially to your email, phone or address, are sent to me in an email so that we can update the directory with the most current information.

**George Mon**  
[gckk@comcast.net](mailto:gckk@comcast.net)

### 2022 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big SIR.....	<b>Richard Lyon</b>
Little SIR.....	<b>Robert Wilkenfeld</b>
Secretary .....	<b>John Kluesener</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Bob Ford</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>John Alexander</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Henry Thatcher</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Robert Lucido</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Larry Kaye</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Edward Brands</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Frank Lucas</b>

#### RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Activities .....	<b>Bob Lucido</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Edwards Brands</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Larry Kaye</b>

Refer to branch directory, accessible under Members Only tab heading on our website, for phone numbers & email addresses.

# SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the lives of its members through fun, activities, events, and luncheons while making friends for life.



## Editor's Ramblings Clint Collier

The world is changing, SIR is changing and we, SIR-Call, are changing.

The governing board of SIR has been moving towards what is called "uniform branding" for the past couple of years and this will now be reflected in our newsletter, SIR-Call. So what does this mean? Well most significantly, the name of the organization, SIR, is now considered a noun; no longer is it an acronym for "Sons In Retirement", "Senior's in Retirement" or anything. The organization is simply SIR. As such it is not, editorially speaking, something that describes us. Just as a an employee of Xerox is not a Xerox'er or a Xerox's, we are not a SIR or SIR's but a SIR member or member of SIR. And when referring to our organization it is all capital letters, no Sir, no Sir's unless it is one of our titles. Big Sir? Well he is still Big Sir!

So, what does this mean to you? Well not that much unless you are the leader of an activity and submit articles to SIR-Call. The editor's have been enforcing the "SIR member" method of referring to a fellow member for some time; Changing Sir to SIR inserting the word member and so on.

One thing you might have noticed however is our masthead changed this month. Gone is the sublime "Sons In Retirement", replaced with just our location, Contra Costa County.

But wait, there is more! As part of the branding and standardization of the organization there is now an officially sanctioned font for use in correspondence and other "writings" bearing the organization's logo... the red rooster. That font is Lato; a Google font in the

public domain. Most of you will not have that font installed on your computer but it is downloadable for free by [clicking here](#)! Up until this issue SIR-Call has been produced with the majority of the text in Microsoft's Calibri font. So what's the difference? Well not much. Both fonts are in the same family and are quite similar. Lato's characters are slightly wider but also slightly shorter. You would not notice this unless you have identical articles next to each other, each in the two respective fonts. All in all, in my opinion, this is a good choice as it appears to me to be a more "readable" font which is really the goal of any good newsletter. Want to see for yourself? Check **Larry Kaye's** biking column on page 17. His submission was our test case in evaluating this change and, for this issue only, his article occurs twice. The left hand side is Calibri as we say good by to it, the right hand is Lato.

We would ask that those of you who submit SIR-Call articles, via a Word document, download this font and use it in those submissions. It is not a big deal for us to change it but if you submit in that font it is just one less step we need to take in getting your article into the newsletter!

Another of our long time proof readers has "retired". We sadly say goodbye to **Jonathan Korfhage**, both a proofer and a past Big Sir. Thanks for everything you do for SIR, **Jonathan!**

**Deadline for submissions for the August issue is July 25th.**

Don't forget, we encourage member contributions to SIR-Call so, if you have something you would like to say, send it in to [br146SirCall@gmail.com](mailto:br146SirCall@gmail.com), putting "Member Note" in the subject line, and we will try to get it out in the next available issue.

**Clint Collier** –Editor SIR-Call  
Cell /Text: 925.457.1489 [br146SIRCall@gmail.com](mailto:br146SIRCall@gmail.com)

## **SIR-Call Newsletter Group**

Editor	<b>Clint Collier</b>
Assistant Editor	<b>Bob West</b>
Photographer	<b>Henry Thatcher</b>
Proofreaders	<b>Ron Polivka, Bruce Borgman, and Hank James</b>
Internet Posting	<b>Ron Plachy</b>



## Luncheon Chairman Steven Oki

We had a successful July meeting with our guest speaker Victoria Briskin, the Development Director for Early Alert Canines. She discussed the training they provide to service dogs to detect medical

conditions like diabetes and COVID.

Of 100 members who signed up for the luncheon, we had 92 who showed up. We had 12 walk-ins who showed up but had not sent in an RSVP. In addition, we had our speaker and 4 guests for a total of 109 attendees. Boundary Oak prepares meals based on our estimate. We have to guarantee to Boundary Oak that we will pay for our estimated attendance, so it is very important that each of us RSVP when we intend to come and keep our commitments to attend.

Our next luncheon meeting will be held on August 11th. Our speaker is scheduled to be Jon Haveman PH.D. The Executive Director for NEED (National Economic Education Delegation) will give us a timely update on our economic outlook. Are we headed into a recession or already in one?

As we have done for the luncheons this year, the August 11th meeting will utilize an “opt-in” reservation system in order for us to give Boundary Oak a more accurate estimate and guarantee of attendance.

### Please see the reservation information below:

#### July 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

- **Where:** Boundary Oak
- **Cost:** \$32

#### Payment

The preferred payment method is by check payable to SIR Branch 146

#### RSVP

- To attend, you must RSVP by Friday, August 5th before Noon
- Show or have proof of vaccination on-file with Waiver of Liability
- Ways to RSVP
  - Email: [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com)
  - If you need to call: 925.979.5721 and leave a message with your information
  - All RSVPs will be acknowledged

#### Special Requests

If you have dietary restrictions, want a vegan meal or can't consume a meal, please send an email to [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com) before the Deadline.

#### Sponsors

If you are bringing a guest: please notify the Luncheon Chair with the guest's name at the same email address: [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com). Guests must have proof of vaccination and sign a Waiver of Liability which will be available at the sign-in table.

#### Questions

If you have any questions please call Steve Oki at 925.831.9380 and leave a message to receive a call back.



## THE CLUBHOUSE AT BOUNDARY OAK

### SIR 146 July Luncheon Thursday August 11th, 2022

#### Salad

Caprice Salad

Vine ripened tomatoes, fresh Mozzarella, Basil, balsamic reduction and extra virgin olive oil

#### Entrees

Bistro Filet

Roasted garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetable and red wine demi glace

or

Grilled Salmon

Brentwood corn risotto, seasonal vegetables, citrus beurre blanc and basil oil

or

Vegetarian Option

#### Dessert

Lemon coconut cake

White cake, lemon Mousse, toasted coconut topping

See the September Menu on page 5

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## August Birthdays!

Ross Abbott  
Marion Boyd  
Mark Curtis  
Ronald de Golia  
Loren Delaurenti  
Paul Dubow

John Fitzgerald  
Roy Hodgkinson  
Brian McCarthy  
Aubrey Moore  
Rick Morgan  
Dan O'Sullivan

Glen Renk  
Gary Schaub  
William Snyder  
Bob Spellman  
Robert White  
Howard Zimmerman

Randy Graham  
Rick Green  
Bill Fritz  
Curtis Young  
Steve Schlossberg  
Nick Jabuka



Congratulations on your Birthday Hat, Charlie Koeber!



### Sunshine Brian McCarthy

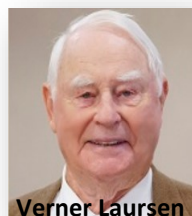
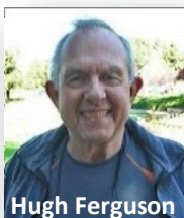


Let us keep the pictured SIR members in our thoughts and prayers. We look forward to their continued healing and return to good health.

Consider contacting a sick SIR member to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually

welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you become aware of a SIR member who is ill please let me know by email at [brimacc@comcast.net](mailto:brimacc@comcast.net) or by phone 925.324.2463 so that our SIR members can be advised. *Stay Healthy.*

**Brian McCarthy**  
[brimacc@comcast.net](mailto:brimacc@comcast.net)



## THE CLUBHOUSE AT BOUNDARY OAK

### SIR 146 July Luncheon Thursday September 8th, 2022

#### Salad

Wedge of Baby iceberg lettuce  
Bacon, cherry tomatoes, red onion and bleu cheese

#### Entrees

Pan roasted bone in chicken breast  
Creamy Polenta, seasonal vegetables and wild mushroom sauce

or

Pamesan crusted Talipia  
Rice pilar, seasonal vegetable, creamy red pepper sauce

or

Vegetarian Option

#### Dessert

Red Velvet Cake  
Chocolate and Berry

# The Branch Honors Paul Dubow With Our Branch's Highest Award!!

At the July 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Paul Dubow** was presented our branch's highest award "Branch Honoree". This award is presented to members who have distinguished themselves in service to our branch. **Paul** is well qualified for this honor and has accumulated more than the minimum 45 leadership points.

**Paul** was born in Newark, NJ and graduated High School there. He attended Rutgers University where he received a BA degree in history. Subsequently, **Paul** obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from Rutgers Law School.

**Paul** joined the Air Force out of law school and spent most of his 4 years' Air Force career at Plattsburg AFB in upstate New York. His fondest memory of his service time was meeting his wife **Joan** at a party at the air base. His second fondest memory was the successful defense of a murder case in Goose Bay, Labrador. **Paul**, we thank you for your service.

Upon discharge from the Air Force, **Paul** worked briefly for the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, DC and later practiced law in Milwaukee, WI. In 1970 **Paul** and family moved to California to accept a position with Dean Witter Brokerage as its first director of litigation. **Paul** retired from Dean Witter in 2000. However, **Paul** has stayed close to his former profession as an arbitrator and mediator. You know what they say: Lawyers really never retire, and fisherman never lie.

**Paul** and **Joan** now live in Rossmoor after a brief stint of living in San Francisco. They have 3 sons, a daughter, and six grandchildren.

**Paul** joined our branch in 2008, sponsored by **Ken Richter** and immediately began indulging big time in fishing, his favorite past time other than traveling. **Paul** is an avid fisherman who does not let the fish sleep or rest. **Paul** is out there casting for them from Alaska to the San Joaquin Delta and our California lakes, as well the Pacific Ocean. **Paul** goes where the fish are said to be biting and fishermen never lie. **Paul** has chaired the Area Fishing Group various times, and has been called The Big Fish since joining in 2008. He also found time to serve as a BEC director for 2 years and has chaired one of our cooking groups. Lastly, **Paul** has chaired our Member's Biography effort for many years. **Paul** has done an outstanding job growing our total number of Bios. He'll even write it for you. Can't go wrong there. We now have 217 Bios.

**Paul** previously received our Certificate of Appreciation. **Paul** also enjoys travel, reading, cribbage, and the Giants.

Please join me today in thanking **Paul Dubow** for his outstanding service and dedication as he becomes our 39th Branch Honoree! Bravo!!!

Presenter was **Walt Busenius** at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon



# The Branch Honors Joe Fuchs With Our Branch's Highest Award!!

Using this SIR-Call, we proudly present **Joe Fuchs** with the branch's highest award "Branch Honoree". This award is presented to members who has accumulated a minimum of 45 Leadership points, a truly remarkable achievement. **Joe** is our 40<sup>th</sup> branch honoree.

**Joe** was born in Brooklyn, NY, and at an early age developed his love of all things sports. **Joe** was a math major at the State University of New York at New Paltz, go Hawks, where he obtained his BA degree in Mathematics. **Joe** later earned his MA from Brooklyn College.

**Joe** started out as math teacher in New York City and then in 1969 joined the Federal Reserve System to start a career of 21 years in information technology. In 1991 he moved over to Stanford University Hospital's information technology department. Later, **Joe** consulted in that field for John Muir Health and several other clients.

**Joe** joined our branch in 2007 sponsored by **Reggie Fromm**. He served as Assistant Treasurer in 2009 and 2010 and then found his calling on the golf committee. For more than 5 years, **Joe** was the face of Sir 146 golf. managing both the weekly pairings and away golf. **Joe's** tenure on the golf committee was an amazing body of work when you realize that the pairings job alone is one of the busiest in the branch since it is a weekly activity, not a monthly one, and it involves scheduling 40 or more players each week.

We understand **Joe** is also the proud owner of every golfer's dream, a hole in one, and he's had 2 of them, 1 of which was scored at Boundary Oak! Congratulations. Something you may not know is that **Joe** is also a very good softball player and has played on multiple teams in the Walnut Creek softball league.



**Joe** and **Stephanie** live in Walnut Creek and have a son, a daughter, and 2 grandchildren.

**Joe** was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation in 2019.

In becoming our 40<sup>th</sup> Branch Honoree, we congratulate **Joe Fuchs** for his hard work and big commitment to Branch 146.

Big Sir **Rich Lyon** & **Walt Busenius** presented the award to **Joe** at his home as **Joe** was unable to attend our luncheon in person.

This article was prepared by **Doug Eisner**

# The Branch Honors Jim Barry With The Certificate of Appreciation Award!!

At the July 14<sup>th</sup> luncheon, the branch's **Certificate of Appreciation** was presented to **Jim Barry**. This award acknowledges a member's exemplary service with our branch over time.

During the Vietnam era, **Jim** actively served in the Air Force from 1966-70. He served an overseas tour of duty in Peshawar, Pakistan and was honorably discharged with the rank of staff sergeant at McChord Air Base in Tacoma, WA. **Jim**, we thank you for your service.

**Jim** was born in Iowa but grew up in central Illinois, finishing high school in Peoria, Ill. Eclectic **Jim** liked Western colleges as he sampled the student life at Arizona State University and the University of Arizona as well as Cal State Northridge.



Our **Jim** has a unique and somewhat unusual resume and career path. **Jim** worked as an auditor for several insurance companies. At one point, he also owned and operated a limousine service in the Los Angeles area. We should ask eclectic **Jim** to come up and relate a few juicy stories, but: you can ask him another time. **Jim** also worked as a payroll and post-production accountant for a television movie production company. Hum!! An interesting career to say the least. **Jim** finished his working career in the corporate environment of The Bank of America, serving as a customer service and operations manager in their Concord complex.

**Jim** joined our branch in April 2013, sponsored by **Rob Melrose** and immediately became active, mostly behind the scenes without any fanfare. In 2015 and 2016 **Jim** served as Assistant and then Branch Treasurer. For years **Jim** was an important member of the golf committee. Currently, **Jim** is the co-chair of the pool group.

**Jim** and his wife **Joyce** reside in Clayton and their children are grown with 3 grandchildren. **Jim** enjoys golf, photography, pool, Mexican train dominos, and RVing.

We thank and show our appreciation to **Jim Barry** for his dedication & commitment to branch 146 with this **Certificate of Appreciation**.

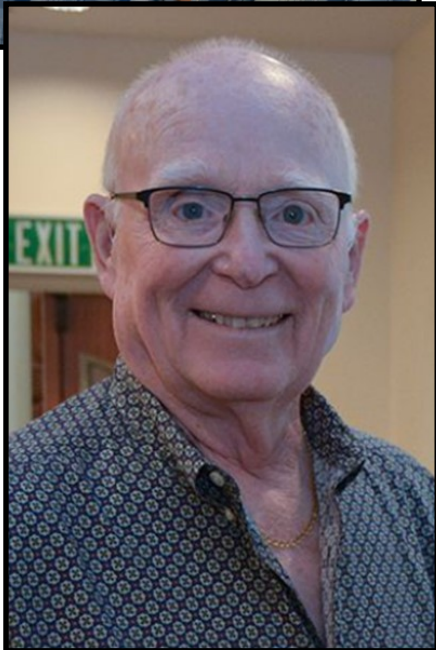
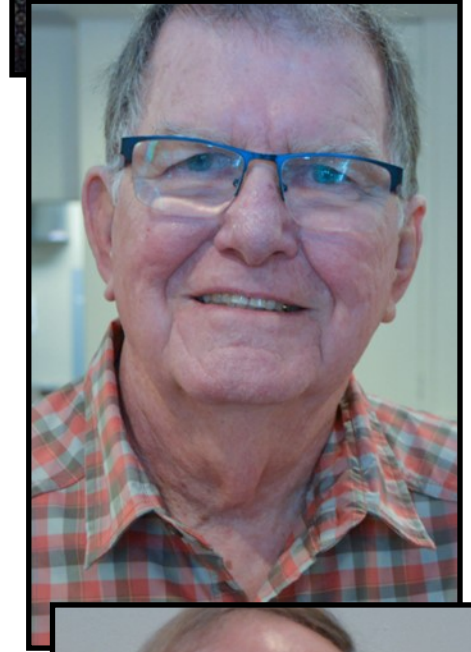
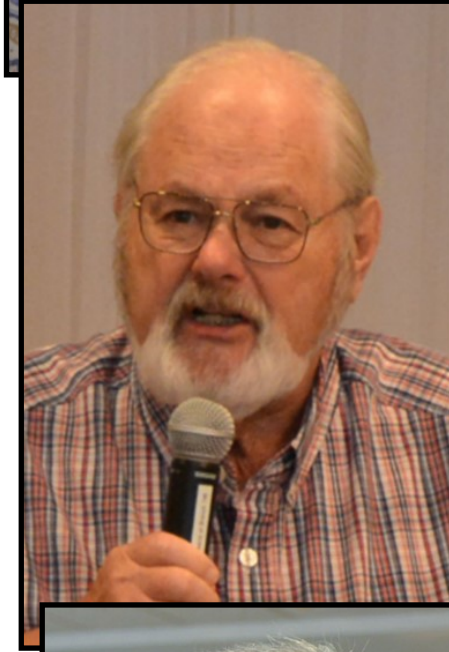
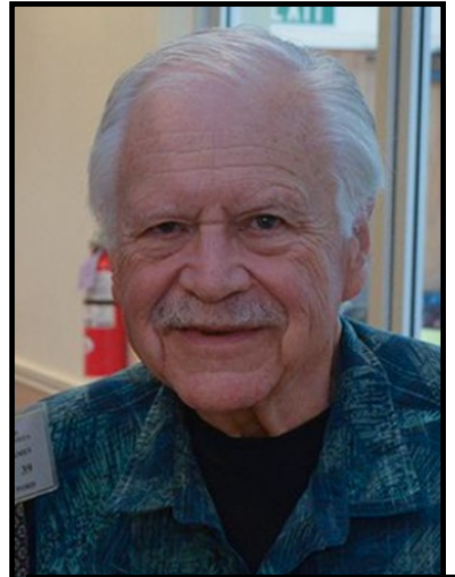
Presenter was **Walt Busenius** at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

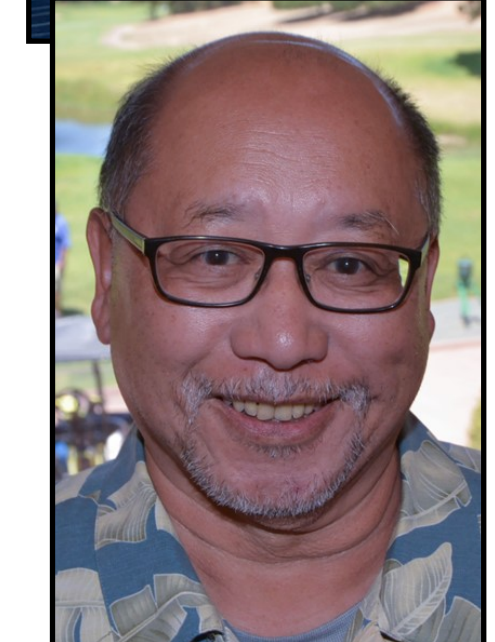
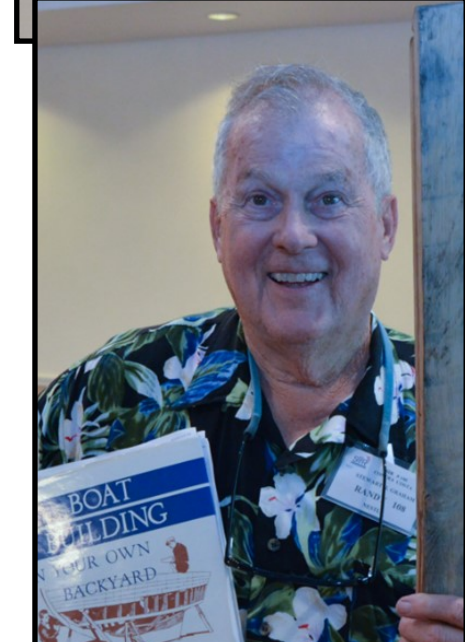
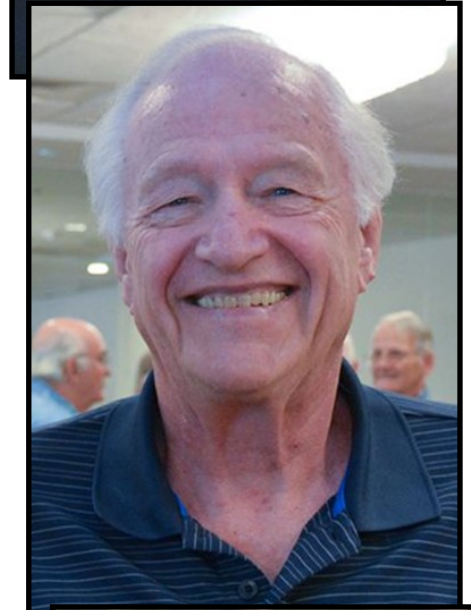
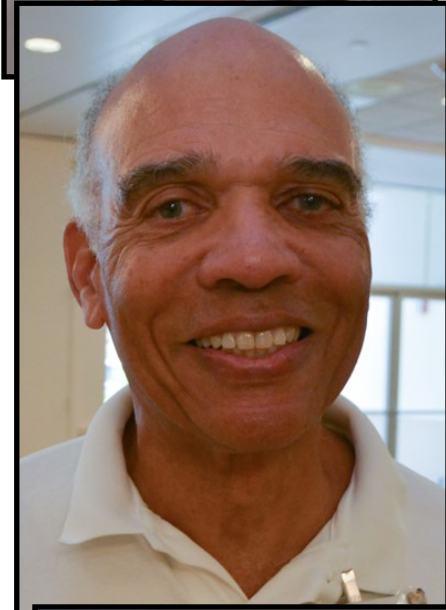
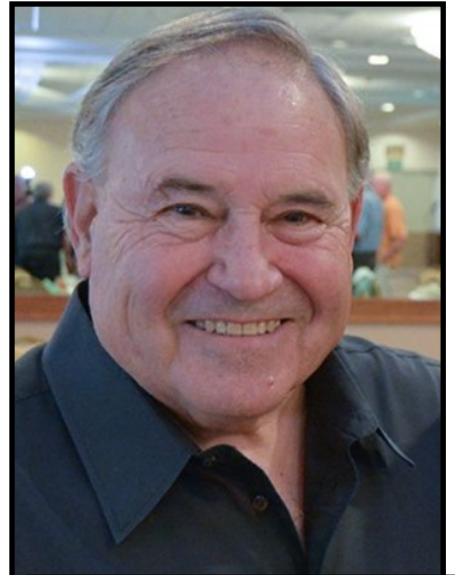


# JULY LUNCHEON

Photos by Henry Thatcher







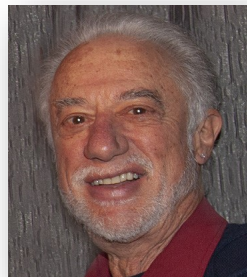






# Looking for something to do...

A complete list of the Branch's activities can be found on [our website!](#)



## Activities Coordinator

**Bob Lucido**

Three new activities have been approved by the BEC, the first will be metal sculpture, **Larry Kaye** will be the chairman. The second is wood working headed by **Randy Graham**, The third is Guitar Jam by **Curtis Young** who is the lead Guitar. The fourth, Bird Watching, with **Frank Lucas**, had their first meeting last week.

We have some possible new activities coming in the future, Beer Making, Gardening, Ham Radio. Stay tuned.

Branch 37 has an activity called Sci & Tech. They have a guest speakers. They Zoom on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30. To get the link contact Gary Willett [kb7qwc@gmail.com](mailto:kb7qwc@gmail.com)

**Bob Lucido**

925.899.0974 [Bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:Bobwendy3@comcast.net)



## Bocce John Kendrick

Reminder - SIR 146 Bocce Ball is alive, active, and looking for existing and new players.

The SIR 146 Bocce Ball activity meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 8:30 am to 10:00 am, May through September at

Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord. The courts are near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads in Concord.

Join us for some Monday morning entertainment and fun. Ladies are welcome.

Rain Cancels Play.

**John Kendrick**

925.827.0585 [jmkendrick23@gmail.com](mailto:jmkendrick23@gmail.com)

# SIR Branch 146 Activities Calendar

## August 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
9:45 AM - 3:00 PM Men's Party Bridge 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 8 Ocho	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 2:30 PM Poker Group #6	10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
8:30 AM Bocce Newhall Park, Concord Ayres Rd & Turtle Creek 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 7 Siete	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM SIR Luncheon	12:45 PM - 3:30 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 1 Uno
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf	7:00 PM - 10:30 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 1	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 5 Cinco	<b>Africa Safari</b>
				10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 4 Quattro
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Kenya &amp; Tanzania Safari: Masai Mara to the Serengeti</b>				
8:30 AM Bocce Newhall Park, Concord Ayres Rd & Turtle Creek 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf	12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM \$ums In Retirement Via Zoom 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group 6 Seis	7:30 AM - 9:30 AM Area 16 Fishing Group Legends Sports Bar Diablo Creek GC 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-3	12:45 PM - 3:30 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 2 Dos 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes 3 Tres
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Sep 1	2
<b>Kenya &amp; Tanzania Safari: Masai Mara to the Serengeti</b>				
10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf		9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 12:30 PM Poker Group #6	



## **DON'T MISS LIFE AND MUSICAL HITS OF PATSY CLINE AT SIR 146 THEATER PARTY, SEPTEMBER 22**

Time is running out to reserve your seats at Lesher Center for "Always ... Patsy Cline" at the SIR 146 Theatre Party on Thursday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m..

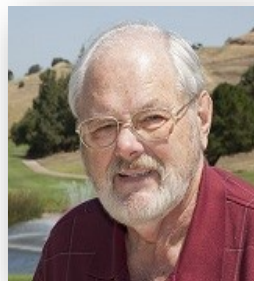
Deadline for assuring your place for reserved and discounted seats is September 8.

The life of Patsy Cline and the musical mix of Pop and Country takes center stage in "Always ... Patsy Cline". Those who recall the wealth of the songstress's hits of the 1960's will not be disappointed. The show features such hits as "*Always*," "*Your Cheatin' Heart*," "*Walking After Midnight*", and "*Bill Bailey Won't You Please Come home*."

Born in the early 1940's, Cline died in a plane crash at the top of her career in 1963. She became a music icon in the decades following her death, and was the first solo woman performer to be elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame.

A limited number of reserved and discount seats is being held for SIR Branch 146 members and guests. Tickets are \$36 per person and may be reserved with a personal check payable to SIR Branch 146, and sent to Theater Activity Chair Gary Schaub at 1400 Countrywood Ct., #8, Walnut Creek 94595 before September 8.

Tickets will be distributed in the lower lobby of Lesher Center on performance night, beginning at 7:00 p.m.



**Theater**  
Gary Schaub





## **THREE SIR BRANCHES JOIN FOR A THEATER PARTY FOR O'NEILL'S "MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN" ON SEPTEMBER 25.**

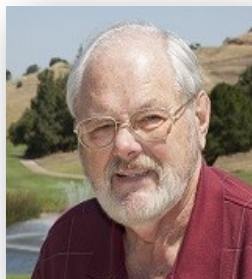
Three area Branches of SIR are working together to promote a Theater Party for an award-winning play by Pulitzer-Prize playwright Eugene O'Neill at Danville's Tao House.

"Moon for the Misbegotten" will be staged in the Old Barn at the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site in the hills above Danville on Sunday, September 25 for a matinee at 2:00 p.m.

Members of SIR Branch 146, Branch 116 and Branch 128 have joined together for this Theater Party event. A special discount is available for members and guests of these SIR Branches.

Tickets are \$60. on sale on the Eugene O'Neill Foundation's website ([http:// Eugeneoneill.org/event/a-moon-for-the-misbegotten/sirs/preferred-access/](http://Eugeneoneill.org/event/a-moon-for-the-misbegotten/sirs/preferred-access/)) There will be a special page on the website offering a limited number of \$5 discount for members of the three SIR Branches. Information for access to the National Historic Site will be provided on the website: [eugeneoneill.org](http://eugeneoneill.org).

O'Neill is America's only Nobel Prize-winning playwright who lived at Tao House in the hills above Danville from 1936-1944. "Moon for the Misbegotten" was written during this period, and is perhaps O'Neill's most popular play. The play has been presented frequently across the country, and on five occasions on Broadway since its debut in 1947.



**Theater**  
Gary Schaub



## 146 Hiking Mark Curtis

The basic universal question is “why are we here and what is our reason for being?”. Sorry, I can’t answer either, but no big surprise! All I

know is that each and every one of us needs to challenge ourselves, both physically and mentally, each and every day. The hiking activity presents significant physical challenges as well as giving us the opportunity to observe the natural(?) environment around us. Is anything we observe around us truly natural based on a total snuffing out of nature by humans? This is also a great social opportunity.

Sorry, you SIR’s gave me this soap box. It was a great treat today to see the return of SIR **Ray Martz**. He has had a very significant health issue for at least 10 years. He had a tumor removed from his liver 14 days ago and did a 5 mile/500 feet hike today. He is my hero, period!

This hiking group is still active with in the order of 8 (or so) regular participants. I have 33 on my email distribution list and still have yet to see 20 or so of these guys on any hike, simple or greater difficulty. Watching television can’t be that great for either physical or mental well-being!

If any of you out there in the SIR world have suggestions as to how to make this activity more attractive to YOU, please let me know, and I will attempt to adjust the choice of venues as well as the difficulty of the hikes.



## SongSirs Peter Plante

The SongSirs performance at Concord Royale was enthusiastically received by the residents in their big living room. Several people were singing along to songs like *O You Beautiful Doll*, *It’s Now or Never* and *Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head*. **Paul Beretz** gave informative and amusing anecdotes introducing each song. My thanks to all our SongSirs for their hard work and dedication to get ready for this gig.



SongSirs will be working on a new set of songs for a gig on October 27. Our rehearsals are on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church starting at 1:30. No auditions are necessary, just a love of singing. Come and join us for a fun time of song and camaraderie.

For further information contact

**Peter Plante**

[pcplante109@gmail.com](mailto:pcplante109@gmail.com)



## Hiking Photos

Right: **Ray Martz** on the Buckeye Ravine trail in Diablo Foothills regional park.

Left: **Ray Martz** in front, **Mark Curtis** and **Mike Browne** at the end.

Photo by **Bob Wilkenfeld**





## Cycling Group Larry Kaye

**July 1st:** Windy. Did I say windy? Yikes. We left on our ride this am at 08:30 to beat the heat. We forgot (I did ) about the wind. Heading South today was. **Bill Ross, Bill Holly** and **Bob Lucido**, and me. The agreement was if it gets too windy

we change direction.

About 5 miles South it became obvious that to continue South would be too taxing.

I turned East and wow.... No wind. We took a very complex route trying to beat the wind. Heading East was great and then we turned North which was super. The route took us through many hidden back streets and over some fun steep hills. All this and no wind. We wound up at Lever. This is a new coffee cafe on the water... yes, in Alamo. Some java and a few belly bombs later we headed to our steel rides. A fun ride and as always, lots of chat amongst the SIR members.

**July 5th:** The clock read 9AM. **Bob Wilkenfeld, Roger Meyer, Bill Holly** and myself were assembled for the ride. It would be my self test after surgery recovery.

This was a ride I've done for years. Off we went. Weather was cool, muggy and sunny.

We headed towards Blackhawk. Felt great.

I had been riding for weeks but wanted to do this ride to see just where I am health wise.

The miles melted beneath our tires as we talked and pedaled. Blackhawk came and went. The Town of Diablo was conquered and Danville was next. The hills along the route were mere bumps. Soon enough the smell of hot Java permeated the air as we approached Peets. The ride was done. I was happy and the rest of the entourage smiled.

A goal was reached and who but my SIR guys to better share it with?



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Continued on next page

No, this is not an error... Larry's column appears twice for a reason. The left hand version is the font Calibri that we have been using for the newsletter.

The right hand version is the font Lato, the new SIR font that is now being used. Both columns are rendered in 11point size.

## Cycling Group Continued

Larry Kaye

July 12th: What a day. Cool and sunny with 7 SIR guys. Roger Meyer, Larry Kaye, Bill Ross, Bill Holly, Bob Lucido, Jim Nelson and Pat Hoy. All tricked out in SIR Jerseys... except Jim. Off we went to Moraga. Arriving in the Town we headed to a java joint Si Si's java. Enjoying Java and asst yummys we sat and rested our butts. The topic of discussion was: do we navigate to Orinda and fight the garbage cans out for garbage day or head home or... per Roger. Hit Canyon. Some guys had never been to Canyon, so yep we headed to Canyon. The trees along the route were magnificent. The "Town" is a post office. As we assembled in the post offices' lot some were amazed. Fun if you had never been here before. Some yak and then we turned around. Back thru Moraga and into Lafayette we rolled. Mostly downhill... Hooray . Our steel vehicles awaited in the parking lot. The guys enjoyed this venture into a little town not known by some.

Another SIR ride with our group of seniors that refuse to age.

Larry Kaye  
925.698.4030



## Birding

Frank Lucas

We held our first / planning meeting on Wednesday, 7/13 at Rocco's.

Besides lunch, we actually accomplished quite a bit. The seven of us (Steve

Ybarra, Bob Lucido, Ed Hewitson, Pete Gates, Michael Wolfson, Steve Loftin and I) spoke for absentees Dick DeVoe, Larry Gray, and Bruce Borgman; and came up with a general outline for our initial group. We will meet once a month on the second Wednesday in the mornings. Exactly where and when we get together will be decided as we go but, as for now, we plan to meet 8/10 at Ed Hewitson's yard in Alamo at 10:00. We will continue our planning there, but will also be bringing our photos and Life Lists to share. And again, other fellow SIR members are welcome to join us.



Steve Ybarra, Michael Wolfson, Steve Loftin, Bob Lucido, Peter Gates, Frank Lucas

The BIRDING "KIT" recommended for Ed's place and beyond: Binoculars, Camera, Sunglasses, Hat with visor, Water, Notebook, and.....GOOD (very) Shoes. OPTIONAL: A Recorder and Field Guides.

There are many birding-related activities available to us, and we plan to make the most of them. Ohlone Audubon Society; Native Birds Connection; Wild Birds Unlimited; and many other groups and walks to explore.

Come one...come all.

Recommended to every Branch 146 SIR members for this month: <https://www.audubon.org/news/the-2022-audubon-photography-awards-top-100>

Frank Lucas

925-316-6122 [frank.lucas1105@gmail.com](mailto:frank.lucas1105@gmail.com)



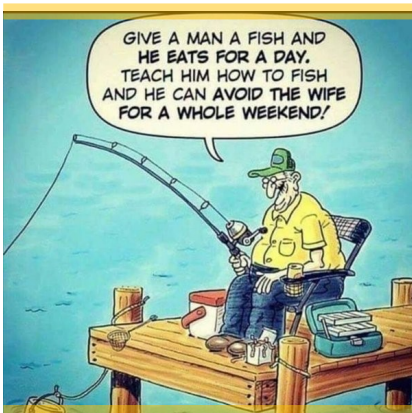
## Table Pool

Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry  
Reported by Jim Barry



No events to report

Bill Weinberg  
925.682.0962





## AREA 16 Fishing Report

### Paul DuBow

The salmon fishing in the ocean has been spectacular. Most of the good fishing has been on the *Sundance* and the fishermen have regularly come home with limits. Although most of the catch has

been at the usual site off Duxbury reef, which is north of the Golden Gate, there was a brief interlude when the hot spot was south of the Gate, near Pacifica. On the first day of the southern forays, the fishermen on the *Sundance* had an opportunity to wave at **Carl Moyer** and **Brion Beetz**, who were fishing in **Carl's** fifteen-foot skiff in open waters. The *Sundance* group limited out by 9:30. **Carl** and **Brion** did not do badly, either. They limited out on salmon and caught some rockfish to boot. On the next day, another group led by **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, also sailed south on the *Sundance* and were one short of the limit by 9:30. They had to wait another hour to catch the 12<sup>th</sup> fish. (The limit is two fish per person—all of which must be king salmon—and the *Sundance* is a six pack, which means it carries six fishermen).

**Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 did even better than the *Sundance* groups. He fished off Pacifica on the Right Hook, out of Berkeley, and the boat limited out by 8 am. **Carl Moyer** took a second trip on his skiff, this time with **Ken Bellindir**, and again limited out on salmon and added some rockfish.

One of the most unusual trips involved a *Sundance* group that included **Lee Clark** of Branch 146. The fishermen sailed south and caught three silver salmon within fifteen minutes after initially dropping their lines. However, silver salmon caught in the Bay Area must be released. After the fifteen minutes of excitement, the lines went dead. And so the group decided to reverse course and fish for rockfish north of the Gate. They limited out on the rockfish, including some large black rockfish, and then decided to try their luck on salmon again. They only boated one fish, but it was a 20 pounder.

Not everybody was successful on salmon forays. **Harry Sherinian** was invited by a friend to join him on the Argo, a six pack out of San Francisco. The captain decided to fish north, notwithstanding the activity in the south, and the group only landed two salmon. **Pedro Contreras**, **Rich Fiscina**, and **Ken Bellindir** fished on **Pedro's** boat and caught one ling cod and nothing

else.

There was other activity besides ocean fishing. **Paul Dubow**, **Karl Droese**, **Ken Konzak**, and **Gordon Linebaugh** traveled to Stampede Reservoir, near Truckee, for two days of kokanee fishing. On the first day, they reached the limit of five per person by 7:40 am, but had to wait until 9:30 for a limit on the second day. In addition, **Paul** caught a cutthroat trout and **Gordon** landed a large rainbow.

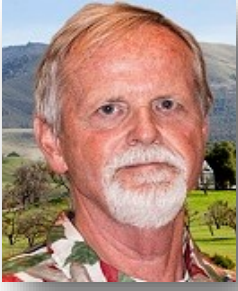
**Stan Wong** limited out on two separate kokanee trips at Stampede. He also fished off Sherman Island for stripers and caught several, including a 30 pounder that he released.

In the last issue, we reported that **Phil Scimonelli** had been catching lots of stripers off the Antioch Pier, but had yet to catch a keeper. His streak continued this month, but **Dave Rege** took his grandchildren to the pier and one of them did land a keeper, which they released. **Phil** also fished at the Point Pinole pier and had fun catching sand sharks.

**Tom Kostik** fished in the Delta four times for black bass and caught and released over 100 fish plus a few small stripers. **Bob Lively**, our Big Fish, is a regular at San Pablo Reservoir and he was quite successful fishing for catfish on the lake.

**Chuck Connell** of Branch 146 vacationed with his family at Lake Almanor and did some trout fishing. He caught quite a few trout, both rainbows and browns. Similarly, **Mike Browne** of Branch 146, took time out to fish on a family vacation. He visited his sons in the Midwest but also had time to fish for bluegill, smallmouth bass, and catfish. Some of the fishing was done on a pond that was located on the property of a family member.

All Branch 146 members are welcome to join our fishing outings and attend our monthly meetings. Our next meeting is on Thursday, August 25, at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but many of us gather at 7 am or thereafter for breakfast and/or fishing stories and so please join us at that time. You are also welcome, even if you have never fished before, to join us for our regular fishing trips. For further information, feel free to call branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at 510-504-3566.



**Photography Group**  
John "Moose" Kelly & Henry Thatcher

Our next photography meeting will be on Friday, August 19th at Rocco's with our gathering time at 8:45 AM. The meeting will kick off at 9 AM sharp. Coffee and yes, DONUTS will be entertained. We ask for a donation of \$2.00 per person to cover the cost of the coffee that Rocco's provides.

The theme for this month's meeting is two-fold. The first theme is architectural photography. **Ron Polivka** has worked in the financial district in downtown San Francisco where there is an array of carved ornamentation in many of the buildings. We will be putting together a field shot in early August to photograph this segment of the city. STAY TUNE!! The second topic of the meeting will be on members that have been on vacation or day trips that are willing to share their photographs with the group. There will be other topics that will be present as well.

**Henry** and I will be forwarding an email with an agenda to the photography group gathering the week of August 15th. We are looking forward to seeing everyone with a coffee / tea in one hand and a donut in the other.

If you are not on our email mailing list and would like to join the Photography Group or just want to come to our meeting to see what the club is all about, then please contact **John "Moose" Kelly** or **Henry Thatcher**. We would be happy to send you the agenda.

Be safe, be well and be sure to "Say Cheese"!  
**John (Moose) Kelly**  
610.517.0152 [rollingstone911@yahoo.com](mailto:rollingstone911@yahoo.com)  
or  
**Henry Thatcher**  
925.997.5032 [1henrythatcher@gmail.com](mailto:1henrythatcher@gmail.com)

**GOLF**  
**Ed Marlovits**

Last month we announced that the SIR Individual Area Qualifier would be held in July, but that did not happen. The new date for this event will be August 25 –again at Blue Rock

Springs East. The normal course of events was for winners of the Area Qualifiers to compete in a regional qualifier, and those winners would compete in the state championship. Because none of the other areas in our region have had an Area Golf Chairman, they are not holding Area Qualifiers. Our event will now become the Regional Qualifier. I will invite members of our Area to participate and the state golf chairman will extend the invitation to the other areas. Invitations will now be sent to Branch 146 Golfers via Blue Golf. We will be holding this event in conjunction with Region 3 so we expect a good turnout with an 8:00 shotgun start. That needs 48 golfers. Because this is a Regional Qualifier and there isn't an Area Qualifier, the fee we pay to state golf will double. The cost of the event will be \$59 and there will be no prize fund. The State fees of \$20 are collected because the state championship is will be free to participants. It is important to get a good turnout and we actually expect chances of qualifying for the October finals to be very high. July 1 Indexes will be used and we will have 7 flights. Flights will be paired together.

**Ed Marlovits**





## Travel Milt Smith

There are several branches working on 2023 trips and Bill Stires has these two booked.

### I NEED SOME HELP HERE IN 146.

I will be gone on a trip from August 19 until December 29, yes four months and 10 days, all of it in Africa and Europe. As an FYI we were in Jamaica for 10 days in early June, flights went well, no troubles.

I need someone to help do any part of Branch travel in which you may be interested, including group trips foreign and domestic, cruises, regional day trips to places of interest within one hundred miles or so, plays, shows etc. (Oklahoma, To Kill a Mockingbird) You do not have to do more than one, just a trip in which you are interested. It may be that you just support someone else's trip by helping to market it... It would be great to get one or two trips on the books for 2023. Please email me ASAP if interested.

### Scenic Ireland Trip through Ireland and Northern Ireland

April 14-27, 2023

Price: \$5,395 Double Occupancy Single \$6,195 \$500.00. Deposit to hold your place. Final payment due on December 15, 2022 This is a small group Departure limited to 24 passengers. Sign up early to reserve your spot on this exciting trip.

Highlights: 12 nights in First Class Hotels Accommodations 1 night in Limerick, 1 night in Clifden, 1 in Sligo, 2 nights in Belfast in Northern Ireland, 2 nights in Dublin, 1 night in Waterford, 1 night in Kinsale, 2 nights in Killarney, 1 night in Limerick

### Autumn Colors trip to East Coast

October 13 - 22, 2023

Price: \$4,330 double occupancy. Air Fare to be added in December 2022. Deposit of \$500 per person to hold reservation. Highlights: 2 nights stay in Boston. Tour of city, free time on own.

Visit Manchester, Vermont; Burlington, Vermont; North Conway, New Hampshire; Bar Harbor, Maine; Acadia National Park; Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Scenic drives along the Mohawk Trail and Kancamagus Highway. This trip will fill up fast, so sign up early.

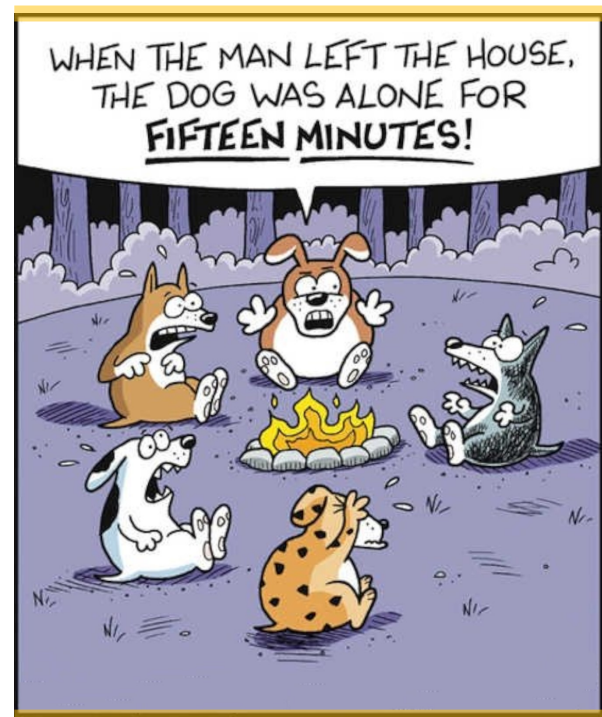
Call Bill Stires at 209-988-5445 or email at [bstires46@gmail.com](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) to receive brochure.

Lastly...

Holidays are blooming in the Valley starting November 12th, 2022. See the announcement on the following page!

Milt Smith

925.285.2897 [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)



THE HOLIDAYS ARE BLOOMING IN THE VALLEY!

Starting - November 12, 2022

*Hosted Lunch at Hilmar Cheese & a visit to Duarte Farms*

Enjoy a leisure ride to the Hilmar Cheese Co for a factory tour and a delicious, hosted Sandwich Buffet Lunch. You will also have time to browse and shop in their large country store – decorated for the holiday season, as well as a chance to sample some of their gourmet cheeses. Then you will be transported to Duarte Farms Nursery to view their amazing display of Holiday Poinsettias. Their greenhouse holds one of the largest selections of colors and species, making your shopping choice of a favorite, a difficult decision. You will have time to visit and shop before departing with a complimentary 6.5-inch poinsettia to take home.



Cost Includes:

- \* Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation
- \* Hosted Lunch at Hilmar Cheese Co. with time for holiday shopping \* Visit and shopping @ Duarte Farms Nursery which includes one complimentary 6.5" poinsettia to take home \* Driver Gratuity included

Call for Dates and Pricing!

All trips, tours and shows are subject to change and availability. Specific conditions apply. CST#1002945-40

TravelCenter, Tours and Travel  
1936 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 937-2223





## Book Group

John Pearl, Interim Chair  
[mcpearl@astound.net](mailto:mcpearl@astound.net)

Six members of the SIR 146 Book Group met Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Our book for the month was "*UNMASKED, My Life Solving America's Cold Cases*," by

Paul Holes.

Paul Holes was a criminologist who worked in the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department and later in the office of the Contra Costa district attorney. He worked for the county for his entire career, and eventually rose to be a high-level manager. He became interested in this field at a very young age and joined the Sheriff's Department in an entry-level lab position after graduating from college. He married his high school sweetheart and lived in Vacaville with his family.

Holes worked long and hard at his job, and his supervisors rewarded him with promotions and raises. As a dedicated criminologist, he wanted to work on "cold" cases, many of which he worked on in his "spare time" and off-hours. As a "CSI" he was on-call to crime scenes during his off-hours if the investigating officers decided that this level of help was needed. He saw a lot and learned a lot in his early years, a lot of which you probably would not want to see yourself.

All this intense effort and learning gradually pulled him away from his family. His wife finally had enough and divorced him, and he moved to Martinez. He was soon even more involved with work. He became able to compartmentalize his work, even the thoughts and visuals of very macabre scenes.

He was there at the beginning of the use of DNA testing, and used this ever-increasing powerful tool to track down criminals and bring them to trial. He worked on a lot of well-known crimes as a major player in their solution. He was able to tell victims and their families that he would do his best to bring their assailants to justice, and he frequently did. He writes that "healing is subjective, but the scars never fade, and the pain is always a breath away. It's a terrible way to spend your life." His work became his calling to the detriment of his family.

There were many sensational crimes that either occurred in or were connected with Contra Costa County while Holes worked there. These included the murder of Laci Peterson and her unborn son, whose bodies were found in San Pablo Bay near Richmond; the dis-

covery of Jaycee Dugard in her kidnapper's backyard in Antioch; and the East Area Rapist, who later turned out to be the Golden State Killer. Holes continued to take advantage of and use the new tools within DNA analysis as this technology developed.

A small task force was working the Golden State Killer case, which had been on-going for many years and Holes decided to join them, essentially on his own time. He ultimately became obsessed about it. The task force included crime analysts and a skilled genealogist. In time, the task force members, with assistance of police in Orange County, realized that the East Area Rapist and a murderer in southern California were the same person. This may not have happened, save for the new DNA tools, because the East Area Rapist did not kill his victims and there was a lull between the conclusion of the crimes by the East Area Rapist and the onset of the activities of the murderer in southern California. Once, police realized that the East Area Rapist and the southern California murderer were one and the same, he was dubbed the Golden State Killer.

The task force narrowed the list of possible suspects by comparing DNA profiles and dissecting family trees. As the suspect group got smaller because of this work, Holes became convinced that the killer was an individual who had moved to Colorado. He was extremely disappointed when the DNA trail exonerated him. However, use of the new DNA tool, "triangulation," started to point to another suspect, Joseph DeAngelo, by then an elderly grandfather who lived in Citrus Heights near Sacramento, with his daughter and her family.

As Holes' retirement neared, he worked desperately to establish that DeAngelo was the killer. The team did have some DNA evidence that they worked to turn in something usable. The team was able to find a web site that was publicly available. As Orange County had been a location used by the killer, the local district attorney and politics entered the picture. The district attorney was furious that Contra Costa was in his "territory" and he thwarted the investigation. However, the team, that now included an FBI agent, worked fast to find another sample, located in Ventura, and get it tested. By using the triangulation method, they found a match. DeAngelo was the killer and the long hunt was over. All they needed now was a DNA sample from DeAngelo himself.

Holes was so obsessed with DeAngelo that on the day that he retired, he did not go directly home but drove

Continued on next page

to DeAngelo's home in the hope of obtaining a DNA sample. After observing the residence, he left without the sample because he knew that the suspect had been a policeman and he did not want to arouse his suspicions. All of this effort got Holes into trouble with his second wife, because they had agreed to move to Colorado where they purchased a new home and hoped for a new life.

The police finally were able to obtain a sample of DeAngelo's DNA. They followed him to a shopping center and, while he shopped, they removed a DNA sample from his car door handle and later obtained a second sample from his trash can. Shortly thereafter, he was arrested when he stepped outside of the house, protesting that he had a roast in the oven and could not leave. A press conference announcing the capture of the Golden State Killer was held, and sure enough, the Orange County district attorney took the podium first, and proceeded to brag about leading the authorities to DeAngelo. His actions contrasted with those of Holes, who left the conference and called DeAngelo's victims with the news of their attacker's capture. The "collateral damage" to the victims and their families caused by this man was severe and significant.

Holes became something of a celebrity and was called upon to consult on cases in other parts of the country. It was just like his past life, and his wife put her foot down and told him he needed a good therapist. He did realize that he had an obsession, and tried to keep it in check, but he failed and he knew it. In the very last line of the book, he states that he is preparing to work on still another case.

This book is Paul Holes' life story about his career solving serious crimes and providing answers and justice for victims and families, while this effort caused serious problems in his family relationships. Were the results worth these problems? If not him, then whom?

This is also a true crime story with a local angle, Crimes really are solved. It is a good read for those who like true crime detective stories where science plays a major role, and we recommend it to those members.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, and our book this month will be *The Great Gatsby*, a classic by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

**John Pearl, Chair**  
**Paul Dubow, Sr. Editor**



## Nine Hole Golf Group Bob Ford

The 9-Hole golf group is enjoying mid-summer golf. The course is looking great. Do you like to play golf but 18 holes takes too long? If so, the 9-hole golf group is for you. Come join us for a round. Our group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on every Thursday, except the second Thursday of the month when we go to the SIR luncheon. It is open to all, and you don't need to be a member of the NCGA or have a handicap to play. It takes us about two hours to play, then most of us also have lunch at the Greenery which is the restaurant at the course. If you are interested, let me know and I will put you on my list. On Sundays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf and if you plan to walk or ride. On Wednesdays I will send out an email with who signed up for Thursday morning. I hope to see you there!!

**Bob Ford**

[scubabob.ford@gmail.com](mailto:scubabob.ford@gmail.com)



## Book Corner Peter Plante

The Book Corner returns for the August luncheon with a great selection of hard cover and soft cover titles. Search for your favorite authors for fiction and non fiction in the back room. I am looking for help setting up and taking down the books. Contact me at [pcplante109@gmail.com](mailto:pcplante109@gmail.com) and meet me at 10:30 at Boundary Oaks on August 14.





## Cooking II Steve Ybarra

The Cooking II group met at the home of **Steve Ybarra** on July 18. Smoked five hour indirect cooked pork ribs were the main course. Dill macaroni salad and a marinated broccoli and mushroom dish well complimented the barbecued ribs. For dessert Steve served pineapple upside down cake. The Cooking II group will next meet at the home of **Bob Yolland** on August 8.



Cooking II: (L to R) **Bob Yolland, Bill Cammerer, Richard Hockenbrock, Dennis Hallett and Ken Richter.** Photo by **Steve Ybarra.**



## Wine Tasting Brian McCarthy



### Wine Enthusiasts

Details of the July wine tasting will be in the September newsletter. Just a Big Heads Up: The October wine tasting will be the second Tuesday, October 11. Normally wine tasting is the fourth Tuesday. Please mark your calendars now. We will remind you again in the September Sir Call. Details of the October wine tasting will also be in the September Sir Call.

**Brian McCarthy**

925.324.2463 [Br146winetasting@gmail.com](mailto:Br146winetasting@gmail.com)



## 寿司の友達

### Sushi no tomodachi Clint Collier

Our August meeting will be on the 18th. We are going to visit another small Ygnacio Valley Blvd. restaurant, [Toyo](#) in Encina Grande shopping center. It is a family run restaurant, great reviews and local to our meeting area.

Members of the group will be reminded of the lunch in early August and asked to RSVP. If you are not a registered member but would like to join us contact me about joining or just attending as a guest.

**Clint Collier**

[SirClint@the-colliers.org](mailto:SirClint@the-colliers.org)





## Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

We have just enjoyed the July event for the Couples Dining Out on July 25 at Kobe Japan.

We had chosen this restaurant as a unique dining experience where the diners are seated around a Teppenyaki cooking table and the skilled chef prepares the meal in front of you. The logistics of this dining experience was a bit more challenging since the chef normally can prepare the selected dishes for only about 20-22 diners at a time. We had thus chosen to eat in shifts so that the first group would have their cocktails first, and have dinner in 30 minutes, followed by the second group, and then the third. Amazingly, it all worked out very well. You may recall that we had initially planned the event for a maximum of 40 diners, but we quickly exceeded that limit so we added the third group.

We had a total of 54 diners, which included two single Sirs. While this activity is designed for couples, we always welcome single Sirs as well.

You will be able to see a number of pictures of our group enjoying the culinary skill and knife handling antics of the chefs.

We will be looking for a restaurant for our event normally scheduled for September, and will likely shoot for a date of Tuesday, Sep. 20 since the last week of the month tends to conflict with other Sir activities. We are always anxious to try new restaurants, so if you discover a new gem, let us know. We typically are enjoying our dining experience with 50-60 diners which limits us to restaurants with the capacity for that number.

This is always one of the activities that allows us to combine a good meal with an ability to see our fellow sirs, and their spouses – and, as in this one in July, enjoy good conversation and a fun time. See you in September!

**Bruce Borgman and Sue Sheldon**  
Dining Out hosts  
[bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com)



# MEXICAN TRAIN Dominoes

Group Uno 1

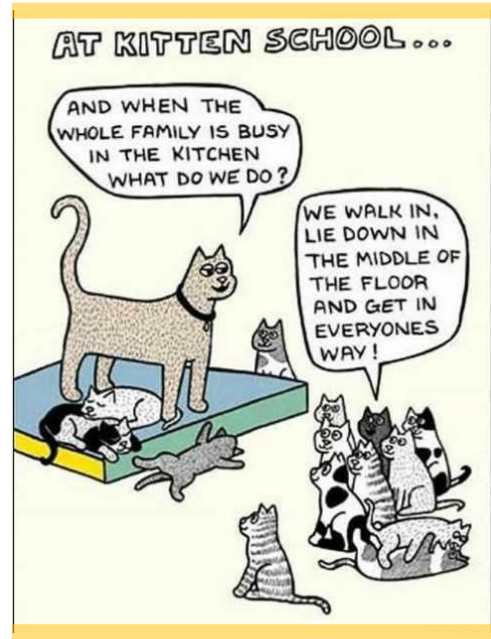
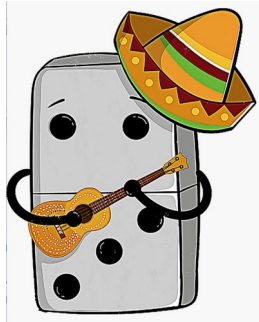


## Mexican Train Dominoes "Uno" Corrie Orange

The Mexican Train Uno group took a hiatus this month.

We will be back on track in August!.

Corrie Orange  
[corrieorange@gmail.com](mailto:corrieorange@gmail.com)



Group Dos 2



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Dos" Ron Plachy

We played our July game at the Walnut Creek home of **Clint & Bev Collier** on Friday the 22nd. We had a new experience in that

the weather was comfortable enough for two of our three tables to play outdoors on the patio. **Bev** had recently injured her hand but was still able to lay out a bevy of snacks and ice cream. Thank you, **Bev**.

**Ron Plachy** came in 1st with an impressive average score of 12.3. Had he not played the 10th game his average would have been even more impressive: 7.8! **Rich Ahlf** came in 2nd with a 15.7 average and **Nancy Pearl** took 3rd with a 17.5 average.

Next month will be hosted by **Mary and Dan Holland** on Friday the 26th at their home in Martinez.

We had a bit of bad news prior to our game...**Bob & Wendy Lucido** have decided not to continue with our group. This means we have an opening for another couple. If anyone out there is interested, please contact me...

Ron Plachy  
925.2861.4552 [rjplachy@icloud.com](mailto:rjplachy@icloud.com)

I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.



When a woman says "What?", it's not because she didn't hear you.

She's giving you a chance to change what you said.

LoveThisPic.com



### Mexican Train Dominoes "Tres" Walt Busenius

All aboard, Friday evening, July 22nd, as our choo choo blew its whistle and chugged along the main line to the beautiful hills overlooking the

Alhambra Valley to the very charming home of **Sharon Varner**. We enjoyed being together again and **Sharon's** hospitality. Most of us thought the dominoes were fair, but all of us loved her sweets.

In attendance were the **Baily's, Richmond's, Busenius', the Shafer's, Joyce Wells and Jim Barry, Jim Stedman and Sharon Varner**. The group settled into 2 tables and again this month 2 winners came from the same table. **Alicia Baily** won the gold, first place, once again this month with a great score just over 14 pts/gm. This smooth lady cannot be slowed down or intimidated. After a slow start, **Jim Stedman** came on like gangbusters and finished in 2nd place, with **Lynn Shafer** crossing the finish line in 3rd place, just beating out **Sue Busenius** by 9/10 of a point.

Our next trip will be to the home of **Sally and Lynn**

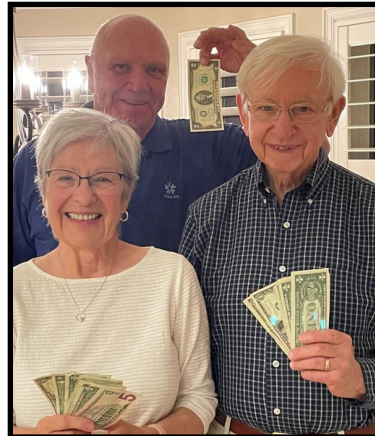
Shafer when our Cho Choo pulls out of the roundhouse on August 26th. All aboard!

**Walt Busenius**

925.457.7428 [walterbusenius@gmail.com](mailto:walterbusenius@gmail.com)



Tres Players at Sharon Varner's home  
Photo by Walt Busenius



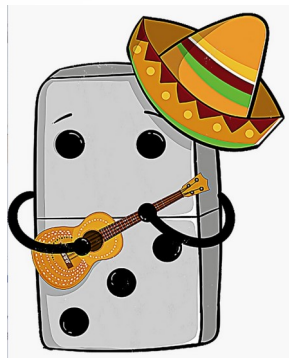
1<sup>st</sup> Place Alicia Baily  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place Lynn Shafer  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Jim Stedman  
Photo by Walt Busenius



### Mexican Train Dominoes "Quatro" Jim Pope

MTD 4 did not meet in July due to travel. We will meet in August on the 19th. .

Jim Pope





## Mexican Train Dominoes "Cinco"

Dave Pierce

After a COVID hiatus in June, what a pleasure it was to see everyone in person again. **Jim** and **Anne Burk** graciously hosted us July 21st in the game room at Via Monte. At the end of the evening, **Dennis Hallett** had gone out three times, averaging 12.9. **Joan Pierce** was second (averaging 18.0), and **Janet Yolland** was third (18.4), a tad better than her husband Bob (18.7). Despite their careful and deliberate play, the men averaged two points worse than the women (23.5 versus 25.5). Rightfully, they were our better halves.

**Dave Pierce**

925.932.3877 [dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



Janet Yolland (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Dennis Hallett (1<sup>st</sup>),  
Joan Pierce (2<sup>nd</sup>)



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Seis"

Steve Lane

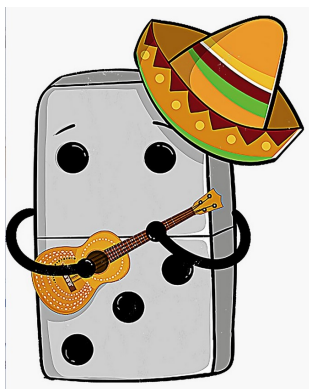
We will not meet during July until the end of the month so there is no report for August SIR-Call. Look for a double report in the September

issue

Any questions, please contact

**Steve Lane**

925.984.0341 [thelane3@aol.com](mailto:thelane3@aol.com).



Gentleman, want to make  
your lady feel special?  
Place her picture in the  
kitchen, and write  
employee of the month.  
She'll love it!

Follow me for more  
relationship tips



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Siete" Bob Lucido

Many thanks to **Bob & Wendy Lucido** for hosting this month's MTD 7. How about that, I'm thanking myself.

Congrats to **Mary McCarthy** for winning the MTD tournament, with an impressive average score per game of 13.8. **Bob Lucido** took the consolation prize for highest score of 51.7. There I go again shaming myself again. [Ed (and member of the group) note: anyone notice a trend here other than me?]

**Bob Lucido**

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



Mary McCarthy and Bob Lucido  
Photo by Clint Collier



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group "Ocho" Richard Hockenbrock

Mexican Train Dominoes OCHO met on Wednesday, July 6st with 16 members and guests in attendance. The three lowest scores were **Steve Ybarra** 1st, **Steve Loftin** 2nd, and **Mary McCarthy** 3rd place. **Virginia Tygart** was the announced 1st place winner at the event, but a mathematical error was later found on the score sheet making **Steve Ybarra** the overall winner.

L to R starting at the top: **Richard Hockenbrock, Steve Ondeck, Mary Jo Potter, Jan Ondeck, Brian McCarthy, Virginia Tygart, Mary McCarthy, Steve Loftin, Bill Holly, Sue Loftin, Jim Barry, Joyce Wells, Steve Ybarra, Laurie & Bill Hoban.** Missing is **Steve Dinning.**

Our next outing will be played on Wednesday, August 3rd starting at 6:30 pm. All games are played at the home of **Richard Hockenbrock**, 3616 Winchester Pl, Walnut Creek. If you would like to play, send **Richard** an email to get on the list.

**Richard Hockenbrock**

925.324.1713 [RLHOCK@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:RLHOCK@OUTLOOK.COM)







# CARD GAMES

...we play



## Men's Hearts Bob West

The big winner from our June 24th meeting was **Frank Lucas** with 2 wins, followed by **Brian McCarthy, Rich Lyon, Bill Vizza** and **Bob West** each with one win. **Steve Ybarra** had 3 seconds, and **Rich Lyon** had 2.

**Frank** had the lowest average score of 64.

**Brian** had the dubious honor of having achieved the highest score recorded as 2nd ever, of 100 points.

YTD: **Bill Vizza** is still the leader with 13 games followed by **Bob Finlayson** with 8.5 and **Brian McCarthy** with 7.5. **Ron Polivka** leads YTD seconds with 10 followed by **Steve Ybarra** with 7. **Brian McCarthy** is the most improved over 2021 with a winning percent of 30% which is 212% higher than his 2021 performance. **Bill Vizza** is 2nd with his 46% win rate which is 158% over 2021. **Bob Finlayson** has the highest winning percentage of 53%, followed by **Rich Lyon** with 50% and **Bill Vizza** with 46%.

Future Meetings: We play 3 games at Rocco's on the 2nd & 4th Fridays, at noon, with an optional lunch at 11:15. August matches will be on August 12th and 26th.

Please call or e-mail me if you have any questions or are interested in playing.

**Bob West**

925.518.8472 [robrtawest@aol.com](mailto:robrtawest@aol.com)



## Poker Group 1 Dan O'Sullivan

Poker group #1 met at the home of **Bill Cammerer**, as always a good time was had by all. It's been so long that we had to think how to play some of the games.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Max Hinkle

Our group is seeking to add new members. If you are an experience bridge player (any level above a novice) interested in joining us for a congenial

game please message me at [hinklemax3@gmail.com](mailto:hinklemax3@gmail.com) or 925.408.6004. We meet at a member's house on the third Monday of each month for a 10:00 am start. Players pay a one dollar fee which is paid out in prize money at the end of the game. Our games usually end around 3:00. We take turns hosting, either a three or four table game, depending upon the host's accommodations. The host usually provides beverages, snacks and a dessert though this is not obligatory. The coordinator takes care of all of the other game preparations. Our next game is scheduled for August 18. I hope to see you there around 9:30 for a little pregame conviviality.

**Max Hinkle**

[hinklemax3@gmail.com](mailto:hinklemax3@gmail.com)





## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

### Dick DeVoe

The July 8 Duplicate Bridge 2 event was perhaps the most competitive we've had in years, with only 1 point separating 1st from 3rd place. And in the 1st

half, six players were within 0.5 pts. of each other, from 3rd to 7th place. Wow!

#### Rankings

1st Place- **Ed Marlovits**. He was 3rd with 13 pts. at the turn, 2nd in the second half with 17.5, ending up with 31 pts.

2nd Place- **Mike Whitaker**. He was 8th (!) with 12 pts. at the turn, 1st in the second half with 18, totaling 30.0 pts.

3rd Place- **Dick DeVoe**. He grabbed 1st in the 1st half with 17.5, dropped to 6th in the second half with 12, and ended up with 29.5 pts.

#### Most Twos

10- **Dick DeVoe**. 9- **John Kluesener**.

#### Least Zeros

3- **Ed Marlovits/Tony Greco/Mike Whitaker**.

#### Best Partnerships (Maximum 6.0 pts.)

6.0 pts. (Boards 19-21)- **Mike Whitaker/Joe Fuchs**.

5.5 pts. (Boards 7-9)- **Joe Fuchs/Mike Whitaker**.

#### Most Improved (2nd half vs. 1st half)

**Ray Spears**- 6.5 pt. increase

**Brad Hatcher**- 6.0 pt. increase.

Dick DeVoe



## Old Money Poker Group 6

Brad Hatcher

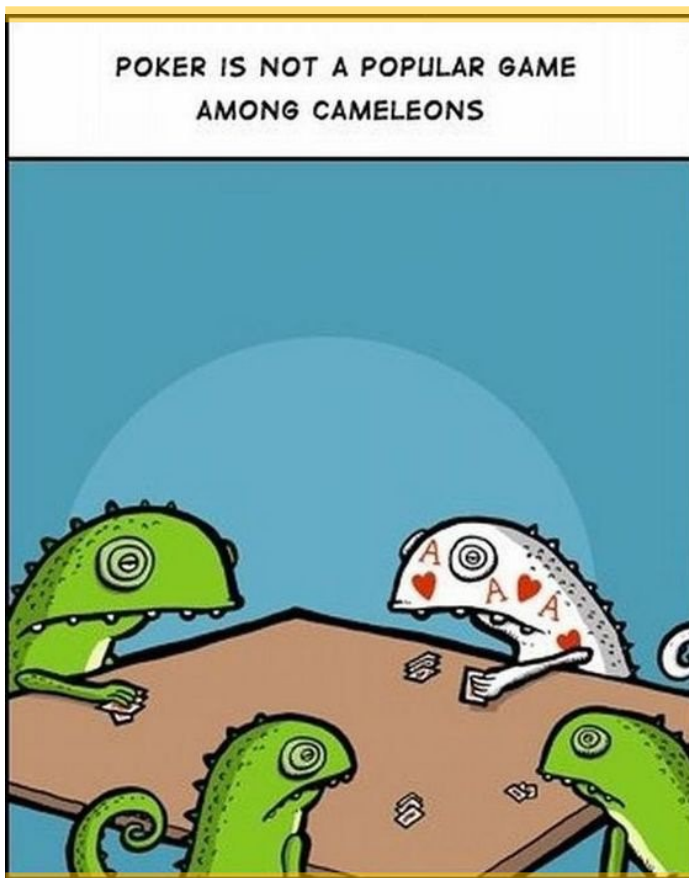
Independence Day was close to our normal meeting date. Thus,



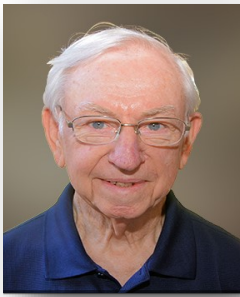
we celebrated the 4th and look forward to playing on the first Thursday of August.

Brad Hatcher

[bhatcher1942@gmail.com](mailto:bhatcher1942@gmail.com)



It's a five-minute walk from my house to the pub  
It's a 35-minute walk from the pub to my house  
The difference is staggering!



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

John Kluesener

Our group met on its regular third Wednesday of the month evening to enjoy cards, conversation and comradery.

We were fortunate to have the **Ken and Elaine Richter** interrupt their many travels to stand in for one of our couples who are themselves traveling. Aha, the retired life! In any event, third place for the evening went to **Janet and Bob Yolland** with a total of 21.5 points. **Christy and Dick DeVoe** managed a second place finish with 25.5 points while the **Kathy and John Kluesener** violated the terms of good hosting by taking first place with a total of 26.5 points -and they didn't even seem like they felt guilty about it!! Next month the group will gather at the residence of **Gloria and Bud Pearce**.

## Party Bridge Jim Pope & Jim Stedman

On July 11th eight players gathered at the home of **Rich Ahlf** for bridge. As usual **Rich** was a wonderful host. The top scorers were very close. The winners were **Steve Dinning** with 4840 points, **Bill Snyder** with 4630 points, and **Rich Ahlf** with 4550 points. Our next game will be on August 1st at the home of **Bob Yolland**.

If you would like to join the party bridge group contact **Jim Stedman** at [jim.r.stedman@gmail.com](mailto:jim.r.stedman@gmail.com) or **Jim Pope** at [jpope24@comcast.net](mailto:jpope24@comcast.net).

Co-Directors

[Jim Stedman](mailto:jim.r.stedman@gmail.com) or [Jim Pope](mailto:jpope24@comcast.net).



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

After two months of hiatus due to COVID concerns, it sure was great to see all our regulars across the table once again.

**Dick and Christy DeVoe** hosted us on July 12<sup>th</sup>, and despite being busy with their excellent hosting, they pulled off a 60% game for first place. **Dave and Joan Pierce** were second (59%), and **Brad and Lynne Hatcher** were third (53%), just ahead of **Ken and Elaine Richter** (51%). We must admit that we were all a bit rusty, and even filling out the traveling scoresheets correctly proved challenging. Better luck next month on that.

Dave Pierce

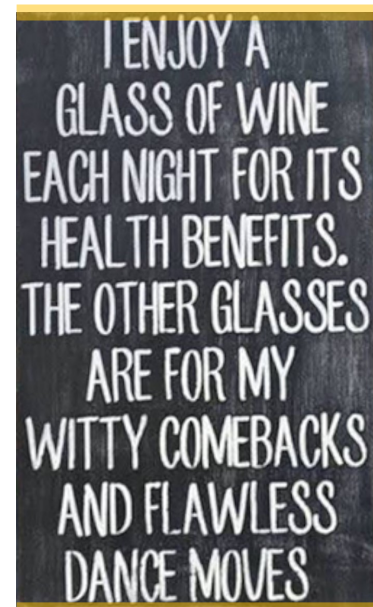
925.932.3877 [dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



Bob and Janet Yolland, John and Kathy Kluesener and Dick and Christy DeVoe

John Kluesener

[john@klueseners.com](mailto:john@klueseners.com)





## Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

Due to the Independence Day Holiday, our July 5th event was cancelled. Our next event will be held on August 2nd and hosted by **Brad & Lynne Hatcher** at the start time of 4:00 pm.

**Tony & Cindy Greco**

925.934.0395 [almanorwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almanorwest@sbcglobal.net)

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## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

**Mike Whitaker**

Duplicate Bridge III had its July meeting on the 15th at the home of **Tony and Cindy Greco**. 12 members played 24 hands of duplicate bridge. At the end of the 1st half it was **Tony** in the lead. At the end of the day however, **Tony** had been overtaken. **Dick DeVoe** was the overall winner with a score of 32.5. **Mark Curtis** was 2nd and **Joe Fuchs** was in 3rd. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 19th. If interested in joining email **Mike Whitaker** at [mrwhitaker@yahoo.com](mailto:mrwhitaker@yahoo.com)

Mike Whitaker  
925.708.8213.

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## Cribbage

**Ron Afdal**

The cribbage group met 7/27, the 4th Wednesday, 12:30 to 3:30 at Rocco's Pizza in Walnut Creek. We now know why **Peter Plante** is our Mr. Songster as he was the 1st place winner, took his winnings, and sang all the way out of the restaurant and most likely all the way home. **John Kendricks** was a solid 2nd place as was **Roger Rivers** with his 3rd place. The rest of us had a good time and secretly vowed to play better next time. We had fun, lots of chatting and invite any others interested in playing cribbage to join us when we meet next at Rocco's Pizza, the 4th Wednesday in August, 8/24, starting at 12:30.

**Ron Afdal**  
[ronafdal@comcast.net](mailto:ronafdal@comcast.net)

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**NO MATTER HOW  
KIND YOU ARE,  
GERMAN CHILDREN  
ARE KINDER.**

---

Two gentlemen had been friends for many decades. Over the years, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures.

Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a month to play cards.

One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

His friend glared at him. For at least three minutes; just stared and glared at him.

Finally he said,  
"How soon do you need to know?"

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# Area 16 Activities



## MUG Mac User Group

Max Burchett and Verner Laursen are the leaders and are available to help Mac, iPhone and iPad users with their questions. Please note that Mac users do not have problems. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on Mac related products. We will also demonstrate various software products. If you have or may have an interest, please contact us and we will put you on our mailing list. If you are on the list, you will receive an email from time to time about items that are of interest to Mac Users.

Please note that Max and Verner are here to help Mac users with problems and solutions and there are not formal meetings. They will inform members of new items of interest.

If you are a Mac user and want to be included, please let Verner know.

Verner Laursen [Vern.laursen@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.laursen@gmail.com)  
Max Burchett [Meburchett@astound.net](mailto:Meburchett@astound.net)

## Area 16 \$UMS Investment Group

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on Wed August 24 at 1:30 PM. Topic to be announced. Email Dave Sutton to be included.

Chair - Tom Henry Branch 174 [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)  
Co-chair Dave Sutton - Branch 8 - [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)



### SIR State Information

<https://sirinc.org/>

This is the state SIR web page. is a wealth of information about SIR, SIR training, and SIR merchandise you can purchase. [The current state newsletter can be found by clicking here.](#)

There are also copies of the many forms SIR uses; in short everything SIR can be found here!



PLAY ONE DAY OR BOTH,  
DAY 1 - \$ 60, DAY 2 - \$60, BOTH DAYS - \$120

## 2022 SIR Fall Golf Classic

MEMBER & GUEST TOURNAMENT  
LADIES - NO HANDICAP REQUIRED!

Blue Rock Springs West  
Blue Rock Springs East  
Vallejo, CA

Wednesday & Thursday  
September 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

"PLAY ONE OR BOTH DAYS"

8:00AM shotgun start both days

Entry fee includes green fee, cart, range balls & prize fund both days

Have a non-golfing spouse?  
Check out all the nearby activities [Click Here!](#)

Applications at [www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org)  
Your Hosts: Jim Gurke, John Harrison, Pete Morelli, Mark Stuart  
SIR members and men guests must have an established NCGA index.

**Men's Program**  
Day 1 - 4 Men's Team - 2 Best Ball (net) Play with a foursome of your choice or we place you on a team  
Day 2 - Men's Scramble Play with a foursome of your choice or we will place you on a team  
Closest to pin contests on both days! Front & Back nines.

**Women's Program**  
Day 1 - 4 Women Team - 2 Best Ball (net) Play with a foursome of your choice or we will place you on a team  
Day 2 - Women's Scramble Play with a foursome of your choice or we will place you on a team  
Closest to pin contests on both days! Front & Back nines.

# Parting Shot

After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children and my friends, I have now started loving myself.

I have realized that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my shoulders.

I have stopped bargaining with vegetable & fruit vendors. A few pennies more is not going to break me, but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.

I leave my waitress a big tip. The extra money might bring a smile to her face. She is toiling much harder for a living than I am.

I stopped telling the elderly that they've already told that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane & relive their past.

I have learned not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. The onus of making everyone perfect is not on me. Peace is more precious than perfection.

I give compliments freely & generously. Compliments are a mood enhancer not only for the recipient, but also for me. And a small tip for the recipient of a compliment, never, NEVER turn it down, just say "Thank You."

I have learned not to bother about a crease or a spot on my shirt. Personality speaks louder than appearances.

I walk away from people who don't value me. They might not know my worth, but I do.

I remain cool when someone plays dirty to outrun me in the rat race. I am not a rat & neither am I in any race.

I am learning not to be embarrassed by my emotions. It's my emotions that make me human.

I have learned that it's better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. My ego will keep me aloof, whereas with relationships, I will never be alone.

I have learned to live each day as if it's the last. After all, it might be.

I am doing what makes me happy. I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to myself. Happiness is a choice. You can be happy at any time, just choose to be!